

Art Unit: To be assigned
Serial No.: 09/936,756

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 4, with the following paragraph:

- - An increase in temperature on the way to the injection point 5 would also lead to a change in the state of aggregation. For prevention, insulation of the heat-carrying elements is recommended.- -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 7, with the following paragraph:

- - The pressure control via the pressure control valve can occur automatically by providing pressure measurement points, for example, in front of and behind the pressure control valve.- -

REMARKS

By way of this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants state that all amendments to the specification have been made solely to place the specification in idiomatic English, and/or clarifying terms throughout the specification.

The Applicant respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by this Preliminary Amendment, and respectfully requests entry of this supplemental preliminary amendment.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims in the above-identified application are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

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If the present application is found by the Examiner not to be in condition for allowance, then the Applicant hereby requests a telephone or personal interview to facilitate the resolution of any remaining matters. Applicant's attorney may be contact by telephone at the number indicated below to schedule such an interview.

The Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any additional fees incurred as a result of the filing hereof or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 19-0120.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: November 7, 2001

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Version with markings to show changes made

Paragraph beginning at page 3, line 22 has been amended as follows:

DE 196 46 665 A1 describes a process for metering physical propellants, wherein a propellant is added at high pressure to the softened plastic material transported in the [consumer] consuming device, e.g. an extruder or an RIM machine, and the amount of propellant is regulated with a pressure control valve, which keeps the pressure difference constant via a rigid throttle means by regulating the pressure difference in dependence on the flow of propellant. The extrusion processes described here are continuous processes in which the propellant is [permanently] continuously added.

Paragraph beginning at page 4, line 23 has been amended as follows:

A process for the production of injection molded articles with foamed core is described in U.S. Patent No. 4,548,776, [according to which gaseous or gas-generated chemical propellant] according to which gaseous or gas-generating chemical propellant is already added to the melt in the extruder, is thoroughly mixed with this and the already foamed melt is then injected into the mold.

Paragraph beginning at page 8, line 23 has been amended as follows:

The cavity 1 can be ready filled as desired and required up to the maximum filling quantity with melt mixed with propellant or, as shown in FIG. 1D, propellant-free melt can again be fed to the cavity in a third stage. In this case a foamed article is obtained which has a compact firm external skin [right] all around which is formed by propellant-free melt.

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Paragraph beginning at page 10, line 4 has been amended as follows:

An increase in temperature on the way to the injection point 5 would also lead to a change in the [aggregate state] state of aggregation. For prevention, insulation of the heat-carrying elements is recommended.

Paragraph beginning at page 12, line 7 has been amended as follows:

The pressure control via the pressure control valve can occur automatically by providing pressure measurement points [12, 13], for example, in front of and behind the pressure control valve.

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